Power generation from urban waste

†2038. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the drains falling in towns and rural areas are filled up with plastic fuel, polythene wastages and they create problems to the drainage system;

(b) whether the Government are considering to develop hi-tech technology for generation of energy from these wastages on national level;

(c) if so, whether Government undertakings, and private multinational companies have taken initiatives in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and what is the progress in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Indiscriminate littering of plastic material alongwith other garbage and the absence of organized segregation creates problems for the drainage systems in towns and rural areas. Several initiatives have been taken by the Ministry of Environment and Forests to discourage littering and to promote proper collection, segregation, reuse and recycling of plastic, including notification of Recycled Plastics Manufacturer and Usages (Amendment) Rules, 2003, and Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Amendment Rules, 2003.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. However, a Nagpur based Professor claims to have developed a catalytic process for conversion of plastic wastes into liquid fuel. On the basis of a detailed scrutiny carried out by the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, the proposal could not be recommended for further research and/or funding.

Linking of regions to transfer surplus power

2039. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to link western, eastern and the north-eastern regions with the northern region to help transfer of surplus power to the deficient northern region;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.